

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AID-05 EB-08 COME-00 TRSE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 /075 W

-----231211Z 095286 /20

O P 231049Z APR 77

FM AMEMBASSY DAKAR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9192

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

AMEMBASSY BANGUI

AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA

AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMEMBASSY KIGALI

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY LOME

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY

UAGADOUGOU 1658

AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS

AMEMBASSY ANTANANARIVO

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

AMEMBASSY BISSAU

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR MARR EAID XY FR CG SG

SUBJECT: DAKAR FRANCO-AFRICAN CONFERENCE: FINAL PRESS CONFERENCE

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REF: DAKAR 2765

1. SUMMARY. DAKAR FRANCO-AFRICAN SUMMIT ENDED APRIL 21 WITH PRESS CONFERENCE AT WHICH FIVE HEADS OF STATE ANSWERED QUESTIONS: PRESIDENTS SENGHOR OF SENEGAL, HOUPHOUET-BOIGNY OF IVORY COAST, MANCHAM OF THE SEYCHELLES, MALLOUM OF CHAD,

AND GISCARD D'ESTAING OF FRANCE WERE CHOSEN BY OTHER HEADS OF STATES PRESENT TO MEET PRESS. ALTHOUGH QUESTIONS WERE ASKED ON ECONOMIC AND AID MATTERS, MAIN THRUST OF JOURNALISTS' QUESTIONS BORE ON SECURITY CONCERNS. END SUMMARY.

2. PRESIDENT SENGHOR DENIED THAT PROPOSAL FOR DEFENSE PACT LINKING THE SIX MEMBERS OF THE WEST AFRICAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY (CEAO) HAD BEEN DISCUSSED AT THE SUMMIT. HE SAID THAT PROPOSAL WOULD COME UP AT JUNE CEAO SUMMIT, HOWEVER.

3. IN REPLY TO QUESTIONS FROM FRENCH JOURNALISTS AS TO HOW FAR HE WAS PREPARED TO GO IN ASSISTING AFRICAN COUNTRIES, AND WHETHER HE BELIEVED THAT SECURITY ASSISTANCE TO AFRICA SHOULD BE DEBATED BY FRENCH NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, GISCARD NOTED THAT SUCH ASSISTANCE STEMMED FROM TREATIES WHICH HAD BEEN APPROVED BY ASSEMBLY. HE NOTED THAT IF AN INITIATIVE TO LIMIT ARMS SALES TO THE CONTINENT WERE MADE BY THE AFRICANS THEMSELVES, FRANCE "WOULD RESPOND."

4. HOUPHOUET REPLIED TO QUESTION ON SECURITY IN AFRICA WITH WARNING TO EUROPE THAT UNLESS MORE ATTENTION WERE PAID TO SECURITY AS VITAL PRECONDITION FOR DEVELOPMENT, EUROPE WOULD RISK SEEING ITS FLOW OF RAW MATERIALS ENDANGERED. THIS WOULD RESULT IN MASSIVE UNEMPLOYMENT AND SOCIAL UNREST IN EUROPE, HE SAID.

5. SENGHOR NOTED THAT HE HAD CALLED FOR CREATION BY FRENCH GOVERNMENT OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CORPS, WHICH WOULD PROVIDE A CERTAIN PERMANENCE AND CAREER STATUS TO FRENCH PERSONNEL SERVING AFRICAN COUNTRIES. THIS WOULD PROVIDE FOR LONGER TOURS OF DUTY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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IN EACH COUNTRY, AND UPGRADE QUALITY OF TECHNICIANS COMING TO AFRICA.

6. COMMENT: SENGHOR APPEARED BRIGHT AND ALERT, LECTURING ONE QUESTIONER ON HIS ENUNCIATION. HOUPHOUET, ON THE OTHER HAND, SEEMED TIRED AND DISTRACTED. HE MISSED HALF OF ONE QUESTION DIRECTED AT HIM, AND APPEARED TO BE NEARLY DOZING MUCH OF THE TIME. AGGREY

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Review Markings:**  
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